
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FEBRUARY 2, 1865.

Read twice, referred to the Committee on Commerce, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. E. B. WASHBURNE, on leave, introduced the following bill:

A BILL

To amend the acts relating to officers employed in the examination of imported merchandise in the district of New York.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That, in lieu of the appraisers now authorized by law for the
4 appraisement of goods, wares and merchandise at the port of
5 New York, the President of the United States shall, by and
6 with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint for said
7 port one appraiser, who shall be practically acquainted with
8 the quality and value of some one or more of the chief arti-
9 cles of importation subject to appraisement, and who, before
10 he enters upon the duties of his office, shall take and sub-
11 scribe an oath faithfully to direct and supervise the exami-
12 nation, inspection and appraisement according to law, of such
13 goods, wares and merchandise as the collector may direct,

14 and to cause to be duly reported to the collector the true
15 value thereof as required by law. And the appraiser, in
16 cases of his necessary and occasional absence, may perform
17 his functions, ad interim, by deputy, designated by him in
18 writing, from the assistant appraisers to be appointed under
19 the provisions of this act.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That, in lieu of the
2 assistant appraisers now authorized by law for the port of
3 New York, the Secretary of the Treasury may appoint not
4 exceeding nine assistant appraisers for said port, who shall
5 be practically acquainted with the quality and value of some
6 one or more of the chief articles of importation subject to
7 appraisement, and included among the goods, wares, or mer-
8 chandise, to the examination and appraisement of which they
9 are respectively to be assigned, and who shall be employed
10 in appraising goods, according to law, under the direction
11 and supervision of the appraiser; and each of whom shall,
12 before entering upon the duties of his office, take and sub-
13 scribe an oath diligently and faithfully to examine and inspect
14 such goods, wares, and merchandise as the appraiser may
15 direct, and truly to report to him the true value thereof accord-
16 ing to law; such report to be subject to revision and correction
17 by the appraiser, and when approved by him to be trans-
18 mitted to the collector, and to be deemed and taken to be the

19 appraisement by the United States local appraiser of the dis-
20 trict of such goods, wares, or merchandise required by law.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That one of the
2 assistant appraisers to be appointed by virtue of this act, with
3 special reference to his qualifications for the duties in this
4 section set forth, shall, in addition to the duties that may be
5 required of him by the appraiser, perform the duties and act
6 in the place and stead of the special examiner of drugs,
7 medicines, chemicals, and so forth, at the port of New York,
8 as provided by the act of June twenty-six, eighteen hundred
9 and forty-eight, chapter seventy.

1 SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That, in lieu of the
2 clerks now employed in the examination, inspection, and ap-
3 praisement of goods, wares, and merchandise at the port of
4 New York, the Secretary of the Treasury may, on the nomi-
5 nation of the appraiser, appoint such number of examiners as
6 said Secretary may deem necessary, their compensation to
7 be limited and fixed by him, to aid each of said assistant
8 appraisers in the examination, inspection, and appraisement
9 of goods, wares, and merchandise according to law ; and no
10 person shall be appointed such examiner who is not at the
11 time of his appointment practically and thoroughly acquainted
12 with the character, quality, and value of the article or articles in
13 the examination and apprrisement of which he is to be em-
14 ployed ; nor shall any such examiner enter upon the dis-

15 charge of his duties as such until he shall have taken and
16 subscribed an oath faithfully and diligently to discharge such
17 duties according to law; and the Secretary of the Treasury
18 shall also appoint, on the nomination of the appraiser, the
19 clerks, samplers, messengers, and other assistants em-
20 ployed in the appraiser's office, and shall limit and fix their
21 number and compensation.

1 SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall not be
2 lawful for the appraiser, the assistant appraisers, examiners,
3 clerks, samplers, messengers, or other assistants, or any of
4 them, to engage or be employed in any commercial or mer-
5 cantile business, or act as agent for any person engaged in
6 such business, during the term of their appointment.

1 SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the appraiser
2 who may be appointed under the provisions of this act shall
3 receive a compensation of five thousand dollars per annum,
4 and the assistant appraisers shall each receive a compensation
5 of three thousand five hundred dollars per annum, to be paid
6 out of the proceeds of the customs.

1 SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That the compen-
2 sation allowed respectively to the appraiser and the assistant
3 appraisers, under the provisions of this act, shall be paid to
4 them in monthly payments, and in due proportion for any
5 period less than one month, for the time they may actually
6 serve.

1 SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That all acts and
2 parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act be,
3 and the same are hereby, repealed; and all provisions of
4 existing acts relating to the duties of the appraisers now pro-
5 vided for by law, or to any proceedings consequent or de-
6 pendent upon the action of such appraisers, and not incon-
7 sistent with the provisions of this act, shall be construed to
8 apply to the appraisers and assistant appraisers provided for
9 by this act, and shall be continued in full force, and that this
10 act shall take effect on and after the first day of April, anno
11 Domini eighteen hundred and sixty-five.